GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4620
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009
SETTING UP OF KALAVARA
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has launched an innovative idea in marketing building material components such as cement and steel called Kalavara;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government for financial assistance for setting up of Kalavaras and to upgrade the existing Kalavaras;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to(d):Yes, Madam. Government of Kerala had made a request on 14.8.2009 for assistance of Rs.21 crore for upgradation of the existing 4 Kalavaras and starting 27 new Kalavaras, which are fair price shops set up by the State Government for selling building materials at reasonable prices to the poor.

The State Government was informed on 28.10.2009 that as against the State allocation of Rs. 449 crore of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) under Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), about Rs. 380 crore have already been committed. The State Government was advised to submit appropriate proposals under the schemes as also the new scheme of "Affordable Housing in Partnership", where an allocation of Rs. 120.00 crore is available to the State.